Serial No. 10/431,715 Page 3

ABSTRACT

A method of making individual sealing members for containers including the steps of conveying a sheet of material in a travel direction relative to a die cutter to bring a portion of the sheet into alignment with the die cutter, then moving the die cutter into engagement with the sheet and cutting a plurality of sealing members from the sheet. The cutter includes a plurality of cutting surfaces shaped and arranged for cutting a pattern of sealing members from the sheet, each of the sealing members including a base portion and first and second extending tabs. The pattern includes positioning the sealing members so that one of the extending tabs of a first sealing member extends into a space between the base portion of a second sealing member and the base portion of a third sealing member. The method then includes separating the sealing members from the sheet of material.